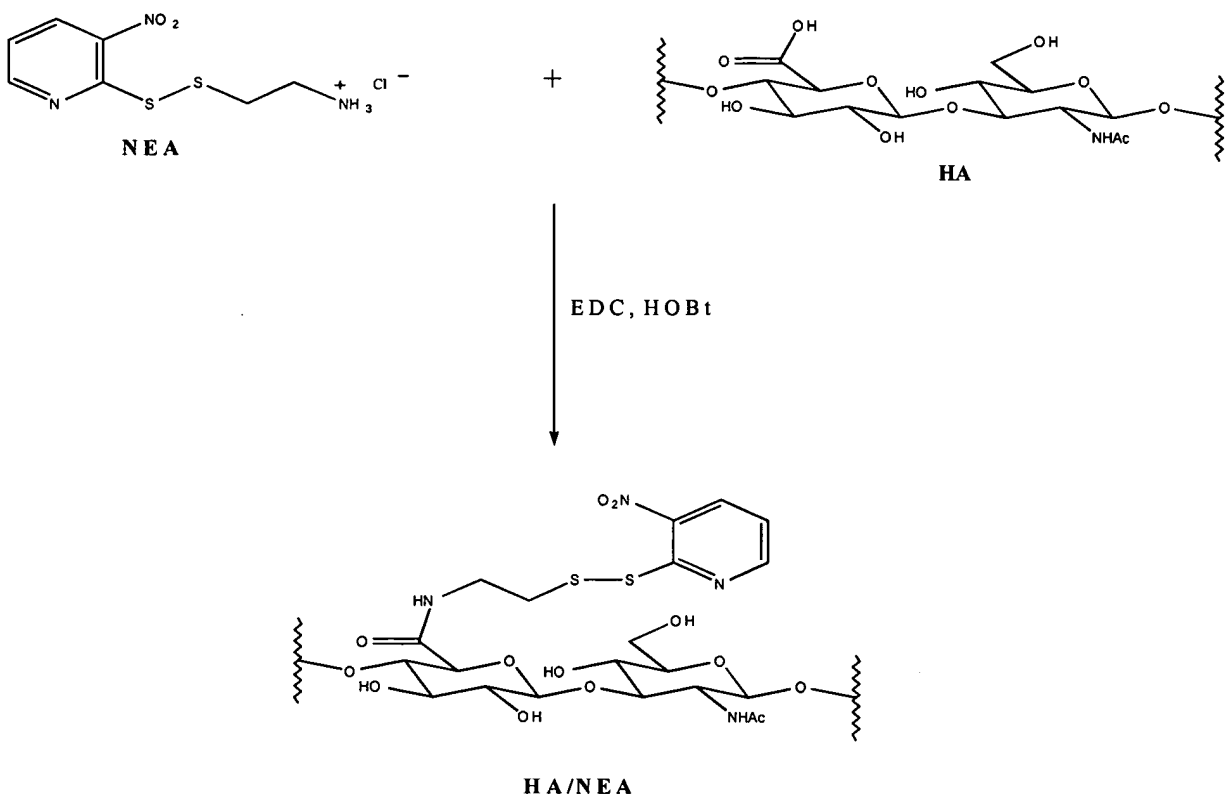


AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 11, starting on line 4, please delete the paragraph and two schemes, starting at "Alternatively, the biopolymer" and ending at "→G-C-R-L-S-S-M".

One page 11, on line 4, please insert the following:



Alternatively, the biopolymer can be reacted with the organic disulfide compound as shown in the following reaction scheme:

